

Report Documentation Page				Form Approved OMB No. 0704-0188	
Public reporting burden for the collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to Washington Headquarters Services, Directorate for Information Operations and Reports, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1204, Arlington VA 22202-4302. Respondents should be aware that notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person shall be subject to a penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information if it does not display a currently valid OMB control number.					
1. REPORT DATE 2007		2. REPORT TYPE		3. DATES COVERED 00-00-2007 to 00-00-2007	
4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE Remotely Measuring Turbulent Coastal Atmospheres				5a. CONTRACT NUMBER	
				5b. GRANT NUMBER	
				5c. PROGRAM ELEMENT NUMBER	
6. AUTHOR(S)				5d. PROJECT NUMBER	
				5e. TASK NUMBER	
				5f. WORK UNIT NUMBER	
7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES) Naval Research Laboratory, 4555 Overlook Avenue SW, Washington, DC, 20375				8. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER	
9. SPONSORING/MONITORING AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES)				10. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S ACRONYM(S)	
				11. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S REPORT NUMBER(S)	
12. DISTRIBUTION/AVAILABILITY STATEMENT Approved for public release; distribution unlimited					
13. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES					
14. ABSTRACT					
15. SUBJECT TERMS					
16. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF:			17. LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT Same as Report (SAR)	18. NUMBER OF PAGES 3	19a. NAME OF RESPONSIBLE PERSON
a. REPORT unclassified	b. ABSTRACT unclassified	c. THIS PAGE unclassified			

Remotely Measuring Turbulent Coastal Atmospheres

W.P. Hooper,¹ G.M. Frick,¹ B.P. Michael,² and R.J. Lind³

¹Remote Sensing Division

²Command Support Division

³Naval Postgraduate School

Introduction: In April and May 2006, personnel from the Remote Sensing Division conducted joint measurements with Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) personnel in testing the capabilities of a recently developed eye-safe lidar that tracks the movement of large aerosol structures (Fig. 5). The test was conducted at Point Sur, CA, a rugged coastal region 30 km south of Monterey, CA, noted for high winds. In coastal areas where winds and large shoaling waves make in situ measurements difficult, scanning lidars represent a powerful tool for remotely measuring the winds and visualizing the airflow.

Transmitter Design: Scanning lidars have been used since the 1970s to measure winds and map aerosol structures;¹ however, eye-safety issues severely limited the use of these early systems. Powerful optical pulses are required to generate detectable backscatter signals from atmospheric aerosols. Since these pulses can damage the eye's retina, measurements could not be made near airports and in urban areas. This problem has been solved in recent years with Optical Parametric Oscillators (OPO) or Raman methane gas cells, which can convert the optical pulses to safer wavelengths (in the 1.5 μm band) that are absorbed by the eye's humor and can not reach the retina. Now the transmit power is limited not by safety issues but by the conversion process since the highly focused beam required for the conversion process can damage OPO crystals or convert methane to soot.

To increase the output power density of the eye-safe lidars, the NRL system uses deuterium instead of methane or OPO. Unlike the methane cells that require recirculating fans and are multipass, the Raman deuterium cells have no moving parts and require only a single pass to generate a backward-scattered or phase-conjugated beam. When generated by comparable lasers, a phase-conjugated pulse is found to be half the length and one third the divergence of the forward-scattered pulses from OPO crystals or methane cells. Since the photodiode detectors in the 1.5 μm band are only 200 microns in diameter, using a highly collimated transmit beam is important, allowing efficient collection and focusing of backscattered light onto the detector.

Measurements: Airflow by the Point Sur area is often dominated by the turbulent eddies generated by the Point Sur rock, which is 500 m long and 100 m high (Fig. 6). The false-color image shows a horizontal lidar measurement made at the top of the rock. Approximately once a minute, the rock produces a large eddy that travels downwind and vertically mixes aerosols generated by surf zones — these large aerosol structures are not visible to the eye but are easily tracked by a scanning lidar².

Figure 7 shows wind observations for the first week of May when the winds changed from a 20 m/s flow from the North to a weak southerly flow and then changed back to a strong northerly flow. This oscillation is typical of airflow in the Big Sur area of the California coast. The false-color image in Fig. 7 shows another horizontal lidar scan. This scan was taken on May 5 when the winds accelerated. The conditions are very different from those shown in Fig. 6. In Fig. 7, the aerosol structures are dominated by kilometer-long roll structures that persist for about 6 hours.

Summary: The NRL scanning lidar is a powerful remote sensing tool for characterizing winds and airflow in maritime areas. During comparisons with the NPS measurements, lidar wind speeds and direction measurement errors were less than 1 m/s and 5 degrees, respectively. Since our system has been validated as eye-safe by the Navy's Laser Safety Review Board, the lidar can be used near airports and in urban areas. Field tests have already been conducted along the Chesapeake Bay and in Washington, DC. The deuterium Raman cells (designed, built, and tested at NRL) have been used for over a year and have not required any maintenance. A key future step of this research is to produce a compact, autonomous lidar system for remotely mapping wind fields from Navy ships.

[Sponsored by ONR]

References

- ¹ W.P. Hooper and E.W. Eloranta, "Lidar Measurements of the Wind in the Boundary Layer: the Method, Accuracy and Results from Joint Measurements with Radiosonde and Kytton," *J. Cli. Appl. Meteor.* **25**, 990-1001 (1986).
- ² W.P. Hooper, J.E. James, and R.J. Lind, "Lidar Observations of Truculent Vortex Shedding by an Isolated Topographic Feature," *Boundary-Layer Meteorol.* **80**, 95-108 (1996). ◆

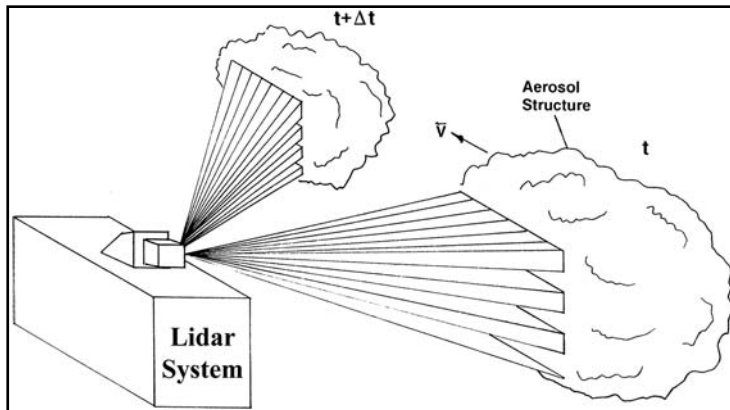


FIGURE 5
The lidar scans back and forth, mapping large aerosol structures (100 m to 1 km) and tracking their movement.

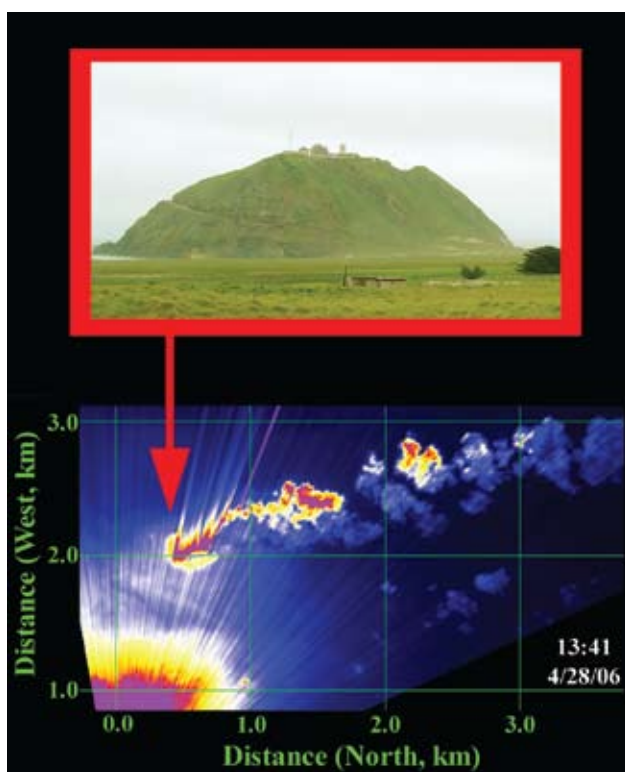


FIGURE 6
The upper image shows the Point Sur rock, and the lower image shows a horizontal lidar scan. The color is related to the aerosol backscatter. Purple and red are the strongest returns; blue is the weakest. The rock generates eddies that move towards the North (upper right). The rock location is denoted by the red arrow.

FIGURE 7

The upper plot shows lidar (large dots) and in situ wind measurements (small dots). The red shows the wind parallel to the coast and the blue wind perpendicular to the coast. During the first week of May, the winds decrease in speed and reverse (on May 2). Three days later, the winds reverse and increase in speed. The lower plot shows a false color image of the roll structures that are generated when the flow accelerates (the green arrow denotes the time in wind speed plot).

